

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DHAHRA 00463 061116Z
ACTION SCS-06

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-----014578 061119Z /15
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FM AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6155
USLO RIYADH PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

UNCLAS DHAHRAN 0463

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC (MACDONALD, JOHN R.)
SUBJECT: COMMERCIAL DISPUTE - CASE OF JOHN R. MACDONALD

REF: (A) STATE 072536, (B) DHAHRAN 0383

1. AS REPORTED IN REFTEL B. SERIOUS EFFORTS HAVE BEEN MADE ON ALL SIDE TO RESOLVE MR. MACDONALD'S COMMERCIAL DISPUTE AT THE LOCAL LEVEL. WHILE LOCAL COMMISSION WAS STUDYING QUESTION OF THE MAXIMUM BOND TO BE POSTED BY MR. MACDONALD'S GUARANTOR, MR. MCADONALD HIMSELF HAS VIGOROUSLY PERSISTED IN HIS EFFORTS TO HAVE ORIGINAL DECISION OF COMMERCIAL DISPUTE BOARD ENTIRELY OVERTURNED. AS MR. MACDONALD DOES NOT REGARD FINAL DECISION OF LOCAL BOARD AS EQUITABLE, HE HAS PRESENTED NUMEROUS APPEALS TO OFFICE OF THE KING, THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, AND THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR, PRINCE NAIF IN RIYADH. CONSOFFS HAVE REPEATEDLY CAUTIONED MR. MACDONALD THAT SUCH APPEALS COULD PROLONG A FINAL SETTLEMENT OF THIS DISPUTE BY THE VERY NATURE OF SAG BUREAUCRATIC METHODS, WHICH ARE SLOW AND DELIBERATE BECASUE OF THE NECESSITY FOR CONSENSUS ON ALMOST ALL CASES.

2. ON 3 APRIL, WHILE FOLLOWING UP ON MR. MACDONALD'S CASE AT EASTERN PROVINCE EMIRATE, CONSOFF WAS INFORMED
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BY EMIRATE OFFICIAL THAT MR. MACDONALD'S ENTIRE CASE FILE HAD BEEN TRANSFERRED TO RIYADH FOR QUOTE A FINAL AND BINDING DECISION ON ALL PARTIES UNQUOTE. MR. MACDONALD HAS ALSO FILED A FORMAL APPEAL OF THE COMMERCIAL BOARD'S DECISION IN THE OFFICE OF THE EMIR OF THE EASTERN PROVINCE. PRESUMABLY MR. MACDONALD'S FILE HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED AS A DIRECT RESULT OF HIS NUMEROUS APPEALS.

BECAUSE MR. MACDONALD'S CASE IS NOW BEFORE THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE IN RIYADH, LOCAL OFFICIALS HAVE DISCONTINUED ALL ACTIONS AIMED AT FINAL RESOLUTION OF THE DISPUTE.

3. FOR RIYADH:

POSTREQUESTS LIAISON OFFICE TO FOLLOW-UP ON MR. MACDONALD'S CASE AT MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, LEGAL DIVISION. HIS CASE FILE NUMBER AS TRANSMITTED FROM E.P. EMIRATE IS 664 DATED 2/23/1398. FILE NUMBERS IN LEGAL DIVISION OF MINISTRY ARE NO. 945 DATED 2/26/1398 AND NO 350 DATED 2/26/1398. IN PRINCE NAIF'S OFFICE AT THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR THE FILE NUMBER OF MR. MACDONALD'S APPEAL IS 6627 DATED 25/3/1398. POST APPRECIATES ALL EFFORTS ON PART OF USLO TO EXPEDITE CONCLUSION OF MR. MACDONALD'S CONTINUED DETAINMENT IN COUNTRY PENDING RESOLUTION OF HIS CASE.

4. SENATOR BENTSEN AND CONGRESSMAN ARCHER INTERESTED. BUSHNELL

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NNN

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